

Message Text

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44

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /054 W
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R 091352Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9084

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP EG

SUBJECT: CHEMTEX/DUPONT POLYESTER PROJECT

REF: STATE 005089

1. AMBASSADOR MET MCGANNON ON FLIGHT FROM NEW YORK TO CAIRO AND HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH HIM OUR UNDERSTANDING OF EGYPTIAN CONSIDERATION OF SECOND POLYESTER PROJECT. MCGANNON HOPES TO MEET WITH EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS NEXT FEW DAYS TO GET DIRECT READING OF THEIR INTENTIONS. HE AGREED KEEP US ADVISED OF PROGRESS OF HIS TALKS. FYI. MCGANNON NOTED THAT, ON BASIS CONSUMPTION REQUIREMENTS, THERE IS NO REALY JUSTIFICATION FOR SECOND POLYESTER PLANT, BUT WILL NEVERTHELESS EXPLORE WHAT EGYPTIANS HAVE IN MIND.

END FYI/

2. AMBASSADOR ALSO INQUIRED IF EGYPTIANS HAVE RESPONDED DIRECTLY TO VARIOUS CHEMTEX/DUPONT MESSAGES TO PRIMIN SALEM ON SENDING A TEAM. SINCE NO REPLY HAD APPARENTLY BEEN RECEIVED, AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED MCGANNON RAISE SUBJECT AND SAY CHEMTEX, DUPONT STILL WILLING SEND SUCH A TEAM IF DESIRED.

3. FYI. CANNOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT EGYPTIANS, HAVING BECOME A BIT WORRIED ABOUT STRONGLY ADVERSE REACTION TO THEIR HANDLING OF FIRST POLYESTER PROJECT

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AND USG DISPLEASURE OVER IT, HAVE DECIDED THEY OUGHT

TO LOOK FOR WAYS TAKE HEAT OFF. WHETHER OR NOT THEY
PLAN TO GO THROUGH WITH SECOND, UNNEEDED PLANT IS
UNCERTAIN. THEY MAY SIMPLY BE USING IDEA AS A PLOY TO
BUY TIME. END FYI.

EILTS

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